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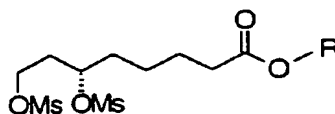
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(54) PROCEDE DE FABRICATION D'ACIDE LIPONIQUE ET D'ACIDE DIHYDROLIPONIQUE  
(54) METHOD FOR PRODUCING LIPOIC ACID AND DIHYDROLIPOIC ACID

(57)

The invention relates to a method for producing R- and S-lipoic acid and R- dihydrolipoic acid comprising the following steps: (a) reaction of the compound of formula (2) with sodium sulphide and sulphur in methanol, whereby Ms represents SO<sub>2</sub>R', and R and R' independently of one another represent C1-C6 alkyl, C3-C8-cycloalkyl, C3-C8-cycloalkylalkyl, aryl or aralkyl. The invention relates in particular to methods for producing pure R- or S-dihydrolipoic acid, which is either used directly or processed further to obtain R- and S- lipoic acid. The method is also used to produce medicaments. The invention also relates to a solution of sodium sulphide-trihydrate and sulphur in methanol, whereby the sulphur is present as a molar surplus in relation to the sodium sulphide-trihydrate, and to a kit that comprises the inventive solution.



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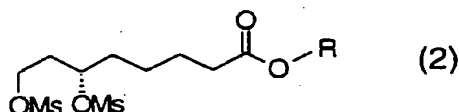
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR PRODUCING LIPOIC ACID AND DIHYDROLIPOIC ACID



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

The invention relates to a method for producing R- and S-lipoic acid and R-dihydrolipoic acid comprising the following steps: (a) reaction of the compound of formula (2) with sodium sulphide and sulphur in methanol, whereby Ms represents SO<sup>-</sup>R<sup>+</sup>, and R and R' independently of one another represent C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylalkyl, aryl or aralkyl. The invention relates in particular to methods for producing pure R- or S-dihydrolipoic acid, which is either used directly or processed further to obtain R- and S-lipoic acid. The method is also used to produce medicaments. The invention also relates to a solution of sodium sulphide-trihydrate and sulphur in methanol, whereby the sulphur is present as a molar surplus in relation to the sodium sulphide-trihydrate, and to a kit that comprises the inventive solution.

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